



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Forks Heritage Research Web Page Launched Web Site Links Researchers With The Past

The Forks, Winnipeg – Learn more about First Nations hunters and gatherers who came to The Forks at least 6000 years ago, vibrant trading relationships between Europeans and Native inhabitants, new uses of the area during fur trade, the bustle of life at the site during the steamboat and early railroad era, and the conversion of The Forks to a modern urban commercial and historical meeting place – all with the click of a button.

Students, teachers, historians or anyone interested in learning about the history of The Forks can now go online to search for many of the available research related reports assembled since 1979.

The new Forks Heritage Research web page contains an abundance of information about pre-contact (pre-fur trade) and recent historical details of The Forks, one of Canada's most prominent historic zones.

The web page includes a bibliography listing 240 major titles, including over 85 reports and accompanying summaries that are now available on-line on the site. Visitors are encouraged to search by keywords, document title, and/or author. The reports available offer an excellent overview of activity at The Forks over the past 6,000 plus years.

The project which was initiated a year ago has been led by The Forks Heritage Advisory Committee and Parks Canada.

"There is such a wealth of information, we felt it needed to be accessible to everyone" says Heritage Committee member Dave McDowell who has been working on the project. "This may be the only urban public gathering place, at least in this country, with the historic significance of The Forks with this volume of scientific and historical findings available to the public. We are confident researchers will find this bibliography a great help in understanding life at The Forks over the centuries."

The volunteer Heritage Advisory Committee will continue its work over the next year to make available all the existing research related reports prepared on The Forks. The new Heritage Research web page can be found at www.theforks.com by clicking on Heritage Research or www.theforks.com/46.

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